

Concord

H i g h S c h o o l

School Prospectus



Personalising Education

Principal's Welcome



Ms Jacqueline Koob
MA Hons, BA Hons, DipEd,
MACEL
PRINCIPAL

I am pleased to offer this introduction to Concord High School, which embodies the very best of public education in NSW in an attractive, modern and well-equipped setting. Our diverse and talented community is an integral part of the leafy riverside suburb of Concord.

Concord High School is characterised by an ethos of striving for excellence, integrity and caring. Students of all abilities and interests are encouraged to achieve their potential while developing their senses of self and community and learning to be responsible for their actions and outcomes.

The school offers a broad curriculum and innovative structures to facilitate its delivery. Students are supported in their development by an exceptionally caring teaching and support staff, who tailor programs to the needs of our students and draw upon the wider community for support when needed.

We are proud of the diversity of our student body as well as their high levels of academic, sporting and charitable achievement. Concord High School looks forward to sharing an exciting future with you.



Our School

Established in 1980, Concord High School is located in the Inner Western suburbs of greater Sydney. Concord High School is a comprehensive, coeducational school with an enrolment of 850 students.

Placed in a 'Green Setting' close to the city, Concord High School is surrounded by parks and sporting fields. The school has an open plan and has been a Department of Education and Training showpiece in design.

Concord High School is a culturally and ethnically diverse learning community where students benefit from being a part of our community of schools where expertise and resources are shared to benefit every child.

Concord High School aims to help every student to achieve their potential. The strong learning culture is complemented by the values of caring for and supporting fellow students and the valuing of community service.



Meeting individual learning needs and interests

Our Curriculum

Concord High School offers a quality, creative and balanced curriculum supported by a strong academic focus. Our talented and dedicated teachers work with all students to assist them to realise their potential.

Quality Teaching & Learning

Concord High School has a strong academic focus leading to highly competitive HSC results. In recent years in the Higher School Certificate each of the courses offered at Concord High School received exceptional results with a strong proportion of students achieving in the top 20% of Higher School Certificate courses. Our teachers are experts in their fields maintaining their high professional standards through regular professional development. A combination of traditional and innovative teaching practices in well-managed classrooms underpin the growing successes.



Our school's challenging and vibrant learning environments cater for each student's individual needs and talents. Our students embrace technology in learning and have demonstrated outstanding performance with technology at School Certificate level. In recent years, all students achieved the highest two grades of Highly Commended or Commended in the School Certificate Computing Skills Assessment.

Balanced Curriculum

Students in years 7 and 8 study the same core subjects taught in most NSW secondary schools. These subjects are English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, Music, Art, Design & Technology, Chinese, Japanese or French, Personal Development / Health / Physical Education and Sport. Concord High School enhances these courses with a Learning Unit which focuses on generic learning skills, and with additional literacy periods. Each term, junior students receive a formal academic report.

The compulsory core courses in years 9 and 10, leading to the School Certificate are English, Mathematics, Science, Australian History and Geography, Physical Education and Sport. Students also select two elective courses from Commerce, Italian, Japanese, Chinese, French, Drama, Dance, Food Technology, Textiles & Design, Technical Drawing, Information Technology, Metal Work, Wood Technics, Visual Arts, Music and Journalism. Career education and study skills courses are also provided.



In senior years, English is the only compulsory subject for the Higher School Certificate. Elective courses offered include Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Senior Science, Information Processes & Technology, Engineering Studies, Drama, Modern History, Ancient History, Geography, Economics, Business Studies, Legal Studies, Japanese, Chinese, Italian, French, Music, Food Technology, Community & Family Studies, Textiles & Design, Personal Development/Health/Physical Education, Visual Arts, Software

Design & Development, Photography, Industrial Technology, Studies of Religion & Sport, Lifestyle & Recreation. In addition to these subjects, three Vocational Education courses are offered: Hospitality, Construction and Information Technology. These courses lead to dual Higher School Certificate and industry accreditation.

Concord High School also offers a number of courses in conjunction with local TAFE, Open High School & the Saturday School of Community Languages. Extension courses are offered in English, Mathematics, History, Music and students with exceptional talent displayed in a particular area can also apply to study one of the Higher School Certificate Distinction Courses which are studied in conjunction with universities. Students benefit from our supportive partnerships with local business, industry and tertiary institutions.

Gifted and Talented Program

Concord High School provides an enriched environment for gifted and academically talented students with staff who are specially trained in gifted and talented education. We assist families with identification of students who would benefit from an innovative and challenging experience and invite them to join the gifted education stream at Concord High School. The tailored gifted education program provides stimulating intellectual challenges that meet the succeed. All students in the gifted education stream are involved in our Learning Outside the Square program. Acceleration is offered for high academic achievers.



Technology

Concord High School is well resourced with computer technology. The school has a wireless network and in addition to computer rooms, a number of interactive whiteboards and a classroom size video conferencing facility. These facilities are integral to the quality teaching and learning at Concord High School.

Fully integrated, up-to-date information and communication technology is utilised by both staff and students in teaching and learning activities. Data projectors, laptops, video cameras, SLR digital cameras and printers are used across all key learning areas and are successfully integrated into programs. Laptop computers are being provided for all students in years 9 to 12 over the next three years. Our teaching staff are committed to enhancing their knowledge of technology through ongoing professional learning. The success of the use of technology is highlighted by the outstanding results of our year 10 students in the School Certificate Computing Skills Assessment.



Learning Centres

Concord High School encourages students to take greater responsibility for their own learning, promoting independent, cooperative learning skills with the use of technology. The Senior Learning Centre provides year 11 and 12 students with a quiet study area to undertake both individual and small group work. A teaching staff member is timetabled in the Senior Learning Centre to assist students with study skills, access to resources and general assistance.

The Junior Learning Centre, located in the school library, provides a location for students in years 7 to 10 to undertake independent research projects utilising available technology.



Tutoring Program

To further enhance overall student academic performance and study skills, Concord High School runs an after hours tutoring program. This program endeavours to improve student performance at whatever their current level in Mathematics, Science, English or Music. The enthusiasm and expertise of tutors provide outstanding support for students.

The Arts

Concord High School students benefit from a comprehensive arts program.

In visual arts, students display outstanding skills and creativity through a range of media including painting, drawing, printmaking and photography. Students of Concord High School have been accepted into the National Art School and their major works have been exhibited as a part of Art Express.

In Drama Concord High School students develop skills in all aspects of performance and production. This includes the writing and full production of their own works. These are presented in the purpose-built theatrette which has recently been upgraded.



Experienced and innovative staff continue to develop and promote the school concert band, string ensemble and vocal ensemble. Students of both groups undertake numerous performances each year, for both the school and wider community. This provides opportunities for interested and motivated students to display and further develop their talents.



Sport

Concord High School has a strong history of outstanding sporting success. Junior students participate in an extensive range of recreational sports and students in years 8-11 are invited to participate in grade sport teams. These teams and 'knock out' sides have attained success in Region and state wide competitions. Concord students actively participate and display school pride at the swimming, athletics and cross country carnivals each year.

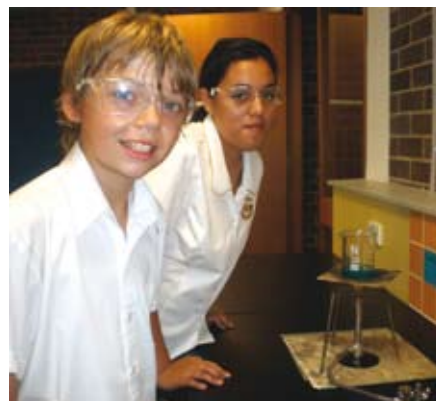
Elite athletes are supported and nurtured as they balance their sporting and schooling commitments. The school is proud of our athletes who have competed in national and international competitions in sports such as diving, gymnastics, tennis and swimming.

Concord High School offers a wide variety of sporting activities in the Before and After School Sports (BASS) Coaching Program. All activities are conducted by qualified specialist coaches with the emphasis on skill development, fitness and participation, as well as providing an opportunity for students to excel in their area of sporting interest.

Caring for our students

At Concord we provide a safe, secure and disciplined learning environment. Our staff recognise the importance of the social and emotional wellbeing of our students and the impact that this has on student learning and development.

Teaching and support staff develop positive relationships with our students which is characterised by understanding and mutual respect. The student welfare team undertake both individual and group programs to support students so that they can successfully engage in activities of the school community.



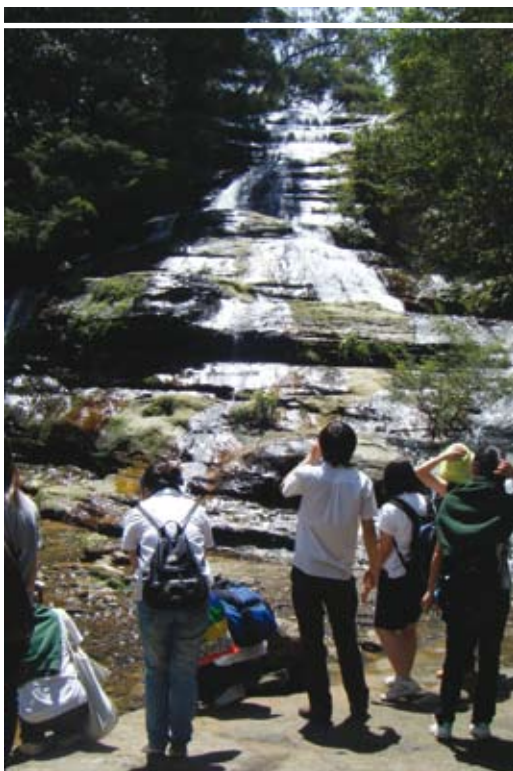
Specialised programs include:

- Community mentoring of students who display talents or require additional support
- Strength Program for boys in years 8 & 9 to foster self esteem and peer relations
- Transition programs such as Orientation Day, Holiday Madness and a Gala Day
- School camps that have a particular welfare focus in years 7, 9 and 11

Concord High School rules are aimed at promoting socially responsible and respectful behaviour. The school rules that underpin the school welfare model, guide student working and learning within the classroom, playground and as they take part in co-curricular activities.

Concord High School is a uniform school and the staff encourage our students to wear their uniform with pride. This reflects our shared commitment to excellence in all aspects of school life.

International Students

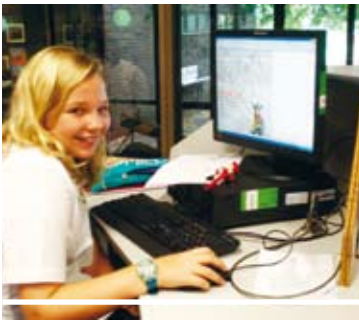


Concord High School caters for over 50 international students from years 7 through to 12. Many of our students come from Korea and China with a smaller number from Japan, India and Vietnam. The cross-cultural experience of International students interacting with our local students is a powerful educational experience. It allows for all students to enhance their knowledge of each others' culture and language. In an ever changing global world it is essential for young people to develop understanding of other cultures.

Concord High School offers a secure pathway to a career or to further study including Australian and overseas universities. The school is a friendly, safe and multicultural environment. International students are supported as they develop independent learning skills and interact in the classroom, community and with their peers.

For more information about becoming an International Student at Concord High School, contact the International Student Centre at: *Internet:* www.internationalschool.edu.au

Email: ISC@det.nsw.edu.au (CRICOS Code: 00588M)



Building Student Character & Responsibility

Concord High School develops leadership, builds individual character and promotes social responsibility and respect for others within a safe and caring environment. Quality opportunities and experiences enable Concord students to become productive and valued members of our diverse community. Programs such as the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme support these goals.

Students are encouraged to become involved in projects and groups which make a positive contribution to our local community. Student leadership groups including the Prefects and the Student Representative Council often provide representation at a number of significant school and broader community events.

Supporting English Literacy

Students are assisted to enhance their English literacy skills at all levels. Specialist staff are involved in student learning programs in years 7 and 8 and English as a Second Language (ESL) staff provide support for students for whom English is a second language.

A separate year 11 and 12 English course is offered at Concord High School for Higher School Certificate students who have English as their second language.



Extra Curricular Activities

Our committed and experienced staff provide a range of enrichment opportunities for students that extends beyond the defined timetabled curriculum. The range of opportunities available to students provides them with challenges that contribute to their development as individuals and as a part of larger teams. Our students develop skills in leadership, communication and teamwork.

Programs include:

- Leadership development programs
- SRC and Prefect Body
- Concert Band
- Soccer academy
- Ex-student and community mentor
- Debating and public speaking
- Award winning school newspaper
- Learning centres to develop independent / cooperative skills
- Environmental education
- Duke of Edinburgh Scheme



Working in partnership with our community

Concord High School sets the highest standards and we consult with and respond to the community we serve.

The Parents and Citizens Association (P&C) is a group of committed parents who work with the school on a range of academic, social, evaluative and fundraising activities that benefit students and provide a genuine voice for parents. Concord High School

values this partnership and is a true local school that is responsive to our parents and wider community. In this light, the school has developed strong links with parents, local businesses, Canada Bay Council, sporting clubs and the wider community.



Facilities

Concord is an attractive well-resourced school set in leafy surrounds. The school boasts a well-resourced library and associated technology to promote independent learning. Well-equipped, modern facilities for practical training include:

- Covered learning area
- Gymnasium
- Library
- Learning Centres
- Theatrette
- Refurbished science labs
- State of the art sound system
- Outdoor classrooms
- Wireless network
- Computer rooms
- Interactive Whiteboards
- Connected Classroom



Well equipped, modern facilities support learning

Contact Information

Enrolment Officer

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